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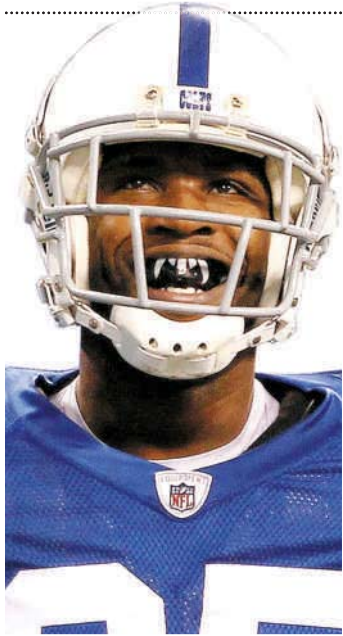
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Wednesday

MARCH 14, 2012 | A PUBLICATION OF The Washington Post | NEWS, ENTERTAINMENT, ARTS, LIFESTYLES | FREE DAILY



OFFSEASON CHAMPS

The Redskins snag Pierre Garçon to boost their receiving corps **15**

RAMPAGE AFTERMATH

A growing number of Afghans push for a quick exit by the U.S. **6**



BLOOMIN' HELL

It's cherry blossom time — now you just have to get there **10**



FOR EXTENDED FORECAST, SEE PAGE 33



Top officials' salaries are higher than most in D.C., even as the agency loses millions and is set to raise fares 13

**For its execs,
at least, Metro has
plenty of cash.**

GETTY IMAGES/EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

eo

eye openers

LEGISLATION

New Slogan, ‘Don’t Worry, Be Yappy,’ Also Rejected

A Kansas House committee squashed a bid Monday to make the cairn terrier the state’s official dog. The breed is perhaps best known as that of Toto, Dorothy’s canine sidekick in “The Wizard of Oz.” People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals opposed the measure, saying it believes it would cause Kansas puppy mills to “churn out litter after litter of the breed.” (AP)

“The ordinance has brought happiness. Unfortunately, two elderly citizens disobeyed.”

— GIULIO CESARE FAVA, THE MAYOR OF FALCIANO DEL MAS-SICO IN ITALY, ON HIS TONGUE-IN-CHEEK DECREE OUTLAWING DYING BECAUSE THE VILLAGE DOESN’T HAVE A CEMETERY.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Vegas Drivers Outraged That Hallucinations Issue Tickets

Police officers in leprechaun costumes started roaming Las Vegas streets Tuesday to test whether drivers yield to pedestrians. Motorists who fail to stop for the green-clad pedestrians crossing streets will be tick-eted. The St. Patrick’s Day enforcement comes after a costumed turkey tested drivers in November, and Santa trolled crosswalks around Christmas. (AP)

The Big Picture



SPORTY CAR HATES THIS CHEAP CAPSULE HOTEL: A new Volkswagen Beetle is lifted inside a delivery tower after the company’s annual press conference in Wolfsburg, Germany Monday. Volkswagen is targeting an increase in deliveries and revenues in 2012 after big drop in earnings for the fourth quarter of 2011. (AP)

SUNDAY
MARCH 18

IT'S NOT FAIR!

- You work hard but see very few results
- You gave your life to someone who betrayed you
- Events caused your dreams to fall apart
- Doctors give you no hope

If life has been **unfair** to you, read this:
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Many would tell you that life is unfair and that certain things simply have to be put up with. Others would tell you to wait on God and hope that He chooses to save you.
And yet, throughout history men and women of faith experienced amazing victories only after they got angry and made an intelligent, planned out revolt against their situations.
Do you feel life is unfair? Are you tired of problems running your life?
We invite you to the **Day of Revolt** where like-minded people will come together to change their lives and get justice from God.



Samantha Mendieta

I had a job where I was over worked and unappreciated but every time I tried to get a better job I was met with a brick wall. In the end I gave up trying and figured I'd have to settle.
Then I decided to follow the advice I got at the UCKG and revolt against my situation, though it seemed impossible. For some weeks I saw no change then all of a sudden the job of my dreams opened up for me. Honestly, this is the biggest miracle I have ever seen from God.

This is what is unjust in my life: (write down your problem below and bring it with you on the 18th)



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SUNDAY
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In Brief

NEW YORK

Stock Market Records Biggest Gains of the Year

Bank stocks turbocharged a rally across the financial markets Tuesday, and all three major stock indexes posted their biggest gains of the year. The Dow rose 218 points and closed at its highest level since the end of 2007. (AP)

WASHINGTON

Deficit Estimate for 2012 Expected to Hit \$1.2T

A new estimate from the Congressional Budget Office released Tuesday says the government will run a \$1.2 trillion deficit for the budget year. Last year, the deficit was \$1.3 trillion. (AP)

NEW YORK

New Yorkers Say Police Treat Muslims Fairly

Most voters in New York City have no problem with the way the police department has treated Muslims, a poll showed Tuesday, despite weeks of criticism leveled against the NYPD's counterterrorism program. (AP)

Primary Coverage

The results of Tuesday's Alabama and Mississippi primaries were not available at Express' deadline. Find coverage at washingtonpost.com.

Students: Keep Loan Rates Low

Unless Congress acts, interest rates set to double this summer

Washington

Millions of college students could be in for a shock this summer when the interest rate on a popular federally subsidized student loan doubles unless Congress acts.

College students Tuesday delivered more than 130,000 letters to congressional leaders asking them to stop rates from increasing from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent. The hike would affect new subsidized Stafford loans, which are issued to low- and middle-income undergraduates. They hope to raise enough awareness to get Congress to stop it.

"I will be put back into buying a house and saving up for my expenses later on in life, and life, as we know, is very unexpected. Adding that variable definitely limits my ability to be successful," said Tyler Dowden, 18, a freshman at Northern Arizona University who spoke at a press conference outside the Capitol before the letters were



Tyler Dowden speaks Tuesday on Capitol Hill, asking Congress to stop interest rates from increasing for a popular loan issued to low- and middle-income students.

delivered in boxes with "Congress: Don't Double Student-Debt Rates" printed on the outside.

Dowden, who's studying to be a mental health therapist, said he anticipates graduating with \$25,000 in debt, but if the rate increases, he expects about \$3,500 would be added to that tally.

President Obama frequently says it's important for Congress to stop the

hike because one of the most daunting challenges after high school graduation is affording college and that keeping the rate low would help 7.4 million borrowers save on average more than a thousand dollars over the life of the loan.

But doing so is estimated to cost billions annually at a time when Congress is gridlocked over budgetary and other issues.

Tuition Costs

Drowning in Debt

With tuition costs at a high, students are taking on unprecedented levels of student debt. College students leave owing an average \$25,000 in loans, and student loan debt now surpasses credit card debt. College students say they worry constantly about the debt they are taking on, and that the few thousand extra dollars they'd take on in new loans if the rate doubled would affect life decisions. (AP)

With many lawmakers acting on a campaign promise, the Democrat-controlled Congress in 2007 passed legislation to progressively lower the rate to 3.4 percent this school year.

Rep. John Kline, R-Minn., chairman of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, has said the looming hike is the "result of a ticking time bomb set by Democrats five years ago."

KIMBERLY HEFLING (AP)



Put Down the Bacon: A new study says eating any amount of red meat significantly increases the risk of premature death. The results, published Monday in the Archives of Internal Medicine, say a 3-ounce serving was associated with a 13 percent greater chance of dying early. Scientists aren't sure exactly what makes red meat so dangerous, but the suspects include iron, saturated fat, preservatives and chemicals created by high-temperature cooking. (AP)



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Obama Toughens on China Trade

President: Country needs to follow its own export policies

Washington

President Obama warned China Tuesday that it would not be allowed to gain a competitive advantage in world trade by “skirting the rules.”

Making an election-year pitch to American workers, and businesses as well, Obama announced Washington has brought a new trade case against Beijing. The goal is to pressure China, a rising Asian economic power, to end its restrictions on exports of key materials used to manufacture hybrid car batteries, flat-screen televisions and other high-tech goods.

“If China would simply let the market work on its own, we’d have no objection,” Obama said. “But their policies currently are prevent-

Monopoly on the Market

With the U.S. economy recovering slowly, President Obama has sought to bring a renewed focus on Chinese policies that could hinder U.S. expansion. Rare earth minerals are scattered throughout the Earth’s crust, but only in small quantities, making them hard to mine. However, rich deposits of these rare earth oxides are in China, giving it command of the market. The U.S. has one rare earth mining company. (AP)



ing that from happening. And they go against the very rules that China agreed to follow.”

The U.S., working in conjunction with the European Union and Japan, asked the World Trade Organization Tuesday to facilitate talks with China over its curtailment of exports of what’s known as rare earth minerals. Obama cast the fresh action against China as part of a broader push to level the playing field for U.S. companies.

On Tuesday, Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Liu Weimin

defended Beijing’s curbs on rare earth production as necessary to limit environmental damage and conserve scarce resources: “We think the policy is in line with WTO rules.”

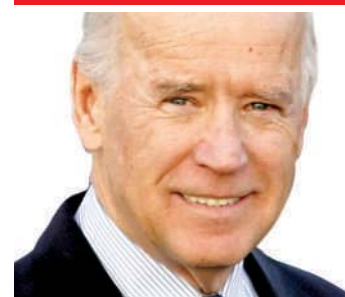
Under the terms of the WTO complaint, China has 10 days to respond and must hold talks with the U.S., E.U. and Japan within 60 days. If an agreement cannot be reached within that time frame, the U.S. and its partners could request a formal WTO panel to investigate Chinese practices. JULIE PACE (AP)

Thumbs Up for ‘Olympic’ Winners



MICHELLE OBAMA, LEFT, REACTS while Samantha Cameron, the wife of British Prime Minister David Cameron, cheers as students compete during a mini-Olympic event Tuesday at American University in Washington in celebration of the 2012 London Summer Games and Obama’s Let’s Move! initiative.

Hearsay



“Had he failed in that audacious mission, he would’ve been a one-term president.”

— **VICE PRESIDENT BIDEN**, ON MONDAY NIGHT REFERRING TO WHEN PRESIDENT OBAMA ORDERED THE MISSION TO KILL OSAMA BIN LADEN IN MAY 2011.

69%

The number of registered voters who would like super PACs to be banned, according to Monday’s Washington Post-ABC News poll. Just 25 percent of Americans said they should remain legal. (THE WASHINGTON POST)

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- National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health

BEST WEBSITE OR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

- Department of Agriculture, Risk Management Agency Headquarters
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- Office of Scientific and Technical Information, Office Of Science, U.S. Department of Energy

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- Broadcasting Board of Governors, International Broadcasting Bureau/Voice of America
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- Defense Intelligence Agency

BEST OVERALL COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM

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- Central Intelligence Agency

BEST EXECUTIVE AND LEADERSHIP INVOLVEMENT

- CG-4
- Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Services
- U.S. Coast Guard

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- Farm Credit Administration
- Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency
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- Lieutenant Commander Michael Edwards, *U.S. Coast Guard*

BEST CAMPAIGN PSA

- Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation
- U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement/Chief Information Officer



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In Brief

JERUSALEM
Official: Brokered Truce Eases Gaza Strip Tension
Israel halted its airstrikes against Gaza Strip militants early Tuesday and rocket fire from the Palestinian territory ebbed as a cease-fire ending four days of clashes appeared to take effect. Egyptian intelligence officials had brokered a truce, an Egyptian official said. (AP)

BEIRUT
Syrian Forces Recapture Opposition-Held City
The Syrian army regained most of the northern rebel stronghold of Idlib on Tuesday, pushing hundreds of military defectors out of a major base they had held for months even as pockets of resistance kept up their fight. The city of 150,000 people was among the first to fall in the hands of army defectors last summer. (AP)

SANAA, YEMEN
Al-Qaeda Militants Kill 3 At Yemeni Army Base
A suicide bomber blew himself up at a Yemeni army post Tuesday, and then al-Qaeda militants attacked it, killing at least three soldiers, according to military officials. Meanwhile, a government airstrike targeted a militants' car in the area killed four people, including an al-Qaeda leader identified as Nasser al-Zafari. (AP)

Massacre Riles Weary Afghans

Turmoil increases desire for speedier end to U.S. presence
Kabul, Afghanistan

A growing number of Afghans say they have come to see a quick U.S. pullout as the best of bad options, a shift in line with Americans' growing disapproval of the decade-long war.
The sentiment follows a Sunday rampage allegedly by a U.S. soldier and an attack Tuesday in which an Afghan delegation visiting the same village came under fire from suspected Taliban fighters.
"When the Americans first came, it was people like me who welcomed them," said Abdul Jabar, 28, a truck driver from Kandahar. "Now they are killing our women and children."
The burning of Korans by U.S. soldiers last month and the deaths of 16 civilians Sunday left him craving vengeance.
Many educated, urban Afghans have long worried that the abrupt pullout of U.S. troops could create



Protesters shout anti-American slogans Tuesday in Jalalabad, Afghanistan, two days after a U.S. Army staff sergeant allegedly gunned down 16 Afghan civilians.

"The killing of innocent civilians is outrageous and it's unacceptable. It's not who we are as a country, and it does not represent our military."

— PRESIDENT OBAMA, ON TUESDAY DISCUSSING THE 16 AFGHANS WHO WERE ALLEGEDLY SLAIN SUNDAY BY A U.S. SERVICE MEMBER AND PLEDGING A FULL INVESTIGATION.

an opening for the Taliban to return to power, plunging Afghanistan back into international isolation and abject poverty. Afghans inter-

viewed Tuesday said the violence made them long for the end of the foreign military presence here.
In Kandahar City, hundreds of

Meanwhile ...
U.S. commanders said they think the suspected shooter acted alone in Sunday's rampage in Kandahar province and described him as a married, 38-year-old Army staff sergeant with two children. They said he served three tours of duty in Iraq and deployed to Afghanistan in December. The suspect received a diagnosis of traumatic brain injury after a vehicle rollover in Iraq in 2010, officials said. (TWP)

students attended a memorial for the victims of Sunday's killings.
A military court found probable cause to keep the suspect in detention, a spokesman said Tuesday. A few hundred Afghans took to the streets of Jalalabad to demand that the suspect be tried in an Afghan court.
Seeking to capitalize on the anger triggered by the deaths, the Taliban on Tuesday issued its third statement on the shootings, threatening to behead foreign "murderous sadistic troops" in the country. (THE WASHINGTON POST/AP)



Super Bowls: Porridge. Breakfast of champions? Organizers for the 2012 London Games gave workers constructing the Olympic village discounted porridge breakfasts to keep their blood sugar levels up — and found it reduced the number of accidents on site, officials said Tuesday. Many workers were routinely skipping breakfast, which yielded late-morning hunger that made it a struggle for them to concentrate on their jobs. (AP)

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Ferry Accident Kills at Least 31 in India



RELATIVES MOURN THE PASSENGERS who died after a ferry sank Tuesday near Dhaka, India. At least 31 people died after the boat, which was carrying more than 200, capsized on the Meghna River.

Ex-Murdoch Protege Arrested in U.K. Hacking Raid

London

Former News International executive Rebekah Brooks and her racehorse trainer husband, Charlie, were arrested Tuesday in dawn raids that netted four other suspects in the phone hacking scandal.



Brooks

The six were arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to pervert the course of justice, police said, an indication that

Backstory

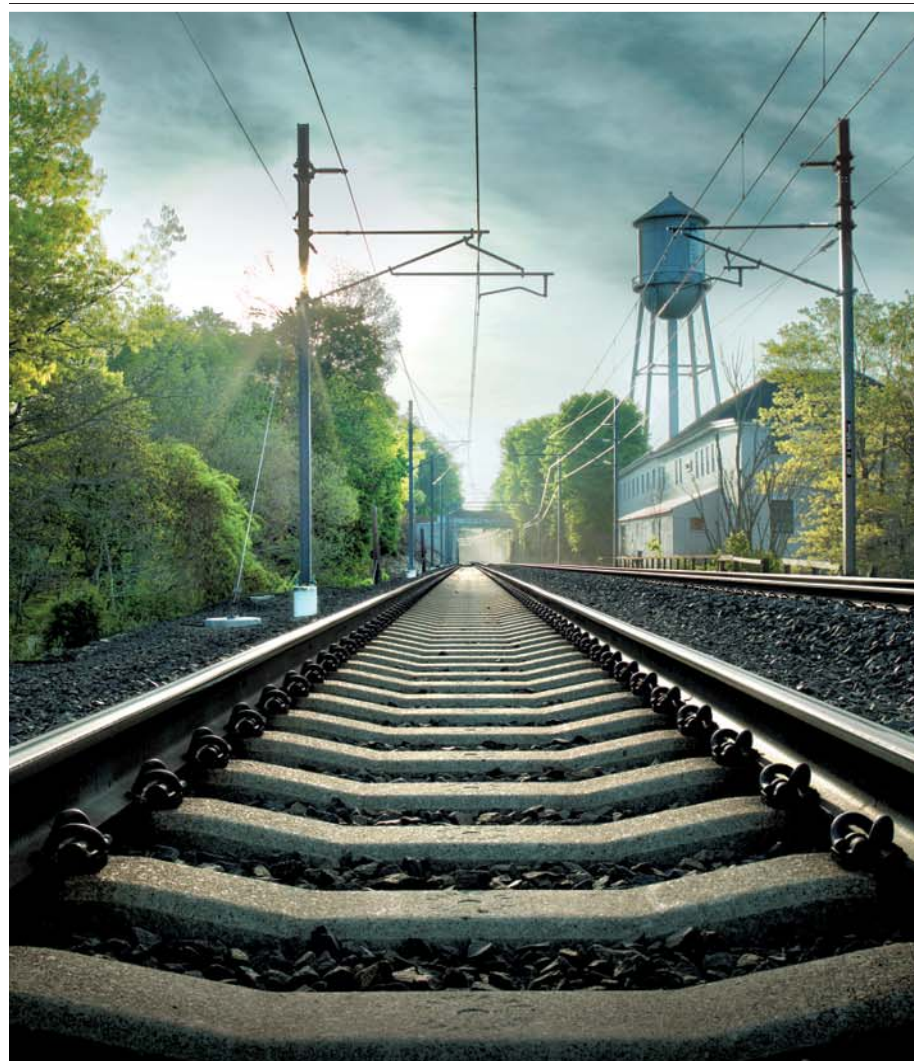
British police said 23 people have been arrested in "Operation Weeting," as the phone hacking investigation is known, with others facing charges as part of a related inquiry into corruption related to the reports of misconduct by journalists News International, the U.K. arm of Rupert Murdoch's News Corp. empire. The company has given settlements to many hacking claimants, including actress Sienna Miller and singer Charlotte Church. (AP)

investigators may be focusing on a possible coverup.

It was the most arrests in one day since the investigation began and brought the scandal to Prime Minister David Cameron's social circle, as Cameron has said Charlie Brooks was a longtime friend.

News Corp. chief Rupert Murdoch had stood by Rebekah Brooks, his one-time protégé, in the early days of the hacking imbroglio, but he accepted her resignation last year, shortly before her first arrest in June on charges related to the hacking investigation. (AP)

1B The number of cigarettes confiscated in South Africa in 2011 as drug lords moved away from "traditional illegal drug smuggling" to illegally importing tobacco products bought more cheaply in other countries, a government spokesman said Tuesday. (AP)



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U.S. Recovery Fuels Area Jobs

Unemployment rates in D.C., Md., Va., all down, report says

Washington

Unemployment levels dropped in the District, Maryland and Virginia in January, the Labor Department reported Tuesday, bolstering a range of positive economic data suggesting that a stronger

recovery is taking hold across the nation.

Virginia's rate dropped the most among the three local jurisdictions — tumbling 0.3 point to 5.8 percent. The District's rate dropped 0.2 point to 9.9 percent, and Maryland's fell 0.1 point to 6.5 percent.

The unemployment rate fell in 45 states and the District and remained steady in four states. New York is the only state that recorded an increase in the jobless rate.

Meanwhile ...

Construction, which has been down the past several years, is having a revival locally. Virginia gained 4,400 construction jobs, and Maryland added 3,000. January is traditionally "a slow month for construction jobs" in Maryland, Alexander M. Sanchez, secretary of the state's Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, said Tuesday. (TWP)

"What we're seeing is a generally broad-based recovery of the economy," said John McClain, deputy director of the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University. "The manufacturing index, the consumer confidence index are all going up."

The survey showed Virginia added 3,200 positions. D.C. reported that it lost 3,900 jobs in January, while Maryland gained 400.

(THE WASHINGTON POST)



FLIGHTS

O Canada

A Canada-based airline will soon offer service between Toronto and Washington Dulles International Airport. Porter Airlines has said it will operate three daily round-trip flights between Dulles and Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport beginning April 16. (AP)

Serial Arsonist Sentenced to 25 Years in Jail

Washington

A serial arsonist who pleaded guilty to setting five fires — including one that seriously injured several firefighters — was sentenced to 25 years in prison Tuesday.

Maurice T. Dews, 27, was arrested in July and pleaded guilty in November to charges of arson and assault.

In addition to the prison time, he received five years' probation during a hearing in D.C. Superior Court.

According to charging documents, Dews would call 911 to report fires that he had set at vacant houses in D.C. and Maryland.

The charges against Dews were connected to incidents in the District between 2008 and 2011.

According to the terms of his plea deal, Dews was also to plead guilty to three other counts of arson in Prince George's County. (AP)

Does the Monument Still Measure Up?



CHARLES DHARAPAKI

GOVERNMENT SURVEYORS with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Geodetic Survey measure elevation on the National Mall on Tuesday. Surveyors are collecting data around the Washington Monument and other sites to determine if it has sunk or tilted since last year's earthquake.

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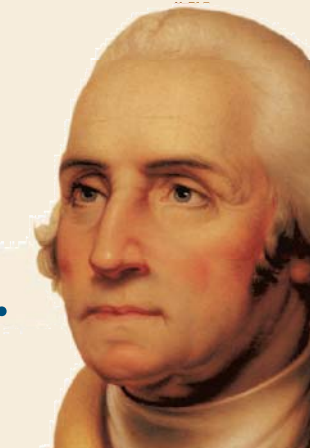
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The Lotteries

Tuesday, March 14

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Mid-day DC 4 6-2-3-3
Evening DC 4 (Mon.) 5-9-8-6
Mid-day D.C. Five 6-5-7-7-7
Evening D.C. Five (Mon.) 7-20-23-28-34

Virginia

Mid-day Pick 3 9-8-7
Evening Pick 3 (Mon.) 8-2-3
Mid-day Pick 4 3-0-0-5
Evening Pick 4 (Mon.) 6-9-5-0
Mid-day Cash 5 (Tues.) 2-11-12-25-34
Evening Cash 5 (Mon.) 3-5-10-25-30

Maryland

Mid-day Pick 3 0-6-0
Evening Pick 3 (Mon.) 7-1-8
Mid-day Pick 4 6-7-6-6
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The Bloom Bustle

If cherry blossoms are on your calendar, get ready for crowds

Washington

How big is this cherry blossom thing? It's so big that the transit authority's track work program, the safety effort so urgent that Metro has inconvenienced hundreds of thousands of riders to advance it aggressively, is going on spring break. Here's our annual guide to how we can all just get along and enjoy the season.

Bus Route Changes

The D.C. Circulators, the distinctive red, black and silver buses with the \$1 fares, help tourists get around, but note several routes have changed. The District dropped the Convention Center-Waterfront route. Metrobus Route 74 covers much the same ground, for a higher fare. It's \$1.50 with a SmarTrip card and \$1.75 with cash.

Transit Tips

It beats driving, but visitors should try whenever possible to avoid the extreme crowding of rush hours. It's cheaper to ride off-peak. Buy a One-Day Pass for \$9, good for unlimited travel after 9:30 on weekdays and all day on weekends. On the escalators, do as we do: Stand to the right, walk on the left.

Parking is free on weekends at the lots and garages operated by Metro. Drivers who park and ride on weekdays will need to have a Metro SmarTrip card to pay at the exits of most parking areas. Use

Metro Service:

- ▶ Metro says it will operate more eight-car trains during off-peak hours and on weekends to accommodate these crowds.
- ▶ Starting March 24, Metro will suspend the weekend maintenance program until 10 p.m. Friday, April 20.
- ▶ Weekday maintenance won't begin until 10 p.m. from March 26 through April 13.



The National Park Service's tree expert expects peak bloom between March 24-31.

MLK Jr. Memorial

If you're able to make it to the Tidal Basin, head to the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, which opened last summer just off the path on the northwest side of the basin. That's the best side for viewing the statue.

them to ride the trains and buses, too, rather than using the paper farecards. They cost \$5 but save money on the fares.

Walking

Smithsonian is the Metro station closest to the Tidal Basin, but it's jammed at blossom time. If that's bothersome, and you're up for a little more walking, get off at L'Enfant Plaza, Federal Triangle

or Foggy Bottom. Only slightly more ambitious: Get off the Blue Line at Arlington Cemetery station and walk over the Potomac River on the Memorial Bridge past the Lincoln Memorial to the Tidal Basin.

Biking

Several Capital Bikeshare stations are around the National Mall. You can sign up to be a member for 24 hours, three days, a month or a year, then take a bike from any of the stations. The first 30 minutes of each trip are free, then riders pay an additional fee for every 30-minute period thereafter. Bring a bike lock, but don't expect to cruise around the Tidal Basin during blossom season — crowds are shoulder-to-shoulder.

Parking

During the festival, drivers can park along East Potomac Park and take a free shuttle from the Hains Point parking area to the Tidal Basin. Shuttles will run every 30 to 40 minutes from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.

(THE WASHINGTON POST)

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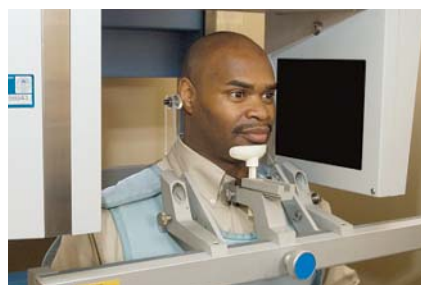
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Cover Story

TONI L. SANDYS/TWP



\$350,000

Metro general manager **Richard Sarles** falls short of being a 1-percenter, but his salary ranks in the top 5 percent of median household incomes in the Washington region. His top lieutenants also all earn well into six figures, according to information obtained under a public records request, and receive medical and dental benefits, plus a deferred 457 compensation plan. (TWP)

Other Top Earners



\$240,000

Dave Kubicek, deputy general manager, operations



\$235,000

Carol Kissal, deputy general manager, administration

\$190,000

Arthur R. Troup, assistant general manager, transit infrastructure and engineering services

\$185,000

Kevin J. Borek, assistant general manager, information technology

\$185,000

James M. Dougherty, chief safety officer

\$184,000

John P. Requa, assistant general manager, bus services

Metro Execs Riding High

The agency faces a \$116M deficit, but officials bring home top salaries

Washington

Metro's top 16 executives took home \$3.1 million in salaries in 2011, and the head of the agency made more money than his counterpart in New York, according to records and officials at the transit agencies.

That information comes as Metro considers how to close a deficit in its next budget. Riders face average fare increases of about 5 percent, though the effect on people's wallets will vary greatly depending on when and where they travel.

Metro General Manager Richard Sarles' \$350,000 salary isn't a surprise. Sarles signed a three-year contract that established his

Who is Richard Sarles?

Metro general manager Richard Sarles, an engineer by training who has 40 years of transit experience, was brought in to turn around the 11,000-employee transit authority after the deadly 2009 crash on the Red Line. He became interim head in March 2010 and was named chief executive in January 2011. Metro officials have said the board recently offered Sarles a performance bonus but he turned it down. (TWP)



\$315,000

The annual salary of **John B. Catoe Jr.**, Metro general manager **Richard Sarles'** predecessor. Catoe, who resigned two years ago, also received a \$60,000 annual housing allowance. (TWP)

annual salary last year, but it makes him one of the highest-paid executives running a major U.S. transit agency.

Many of his counterparts on the East Coast make far less, according to the local agencies, but Metro is the No. 2 transit system in the country, based on the number of passenger trips on an average weekday — about 961,000.

Sarles earned more than his counterpart in New York. That system rolls up more than eight times the number of trips, but its chairman and chief executive received about \$332,500 last year.

The general manager of the

Philadelphia rail system, which has about a third as many trips, is paid about \$250,000 a year, and the head of Boston's subway system — about half the size of Metro — will receive \$149,129.

Sarles' top lieutenants all earn well into six figures, according to information obtained under a public records request. In the coming weeks, Sarles is expected to evaluate his executive leadership team and decide whether they're eligible for bonuses.

The Metro board is also expected to decide in coming months how much more riders should pay.

Metro has faced sharp criticism recently from passengers as Sarles has proposed an across-the-board hike on fares for rail, bus and parking to help close a \$116 million deficit in the authority's fiscal 2013 budget. He also wants local jurisdictions to provide larger subsidies to help close the gap.

The public has weighed in at six public hearings on the proposed

hikes. A few riders have criticized Metro's management for being top-heavy. At an Arlington hearing, one rider called the board and upper management "arrogant" and "tone-deaf."

At a hearing in Anacostia, Metro rider Leslie Wilcox told transit officials to "look within their own organization and make cuts."

Metro officials have said the proposed budget does not include money for raises, but the increasing costs of pensions is one factor driving the deficit.

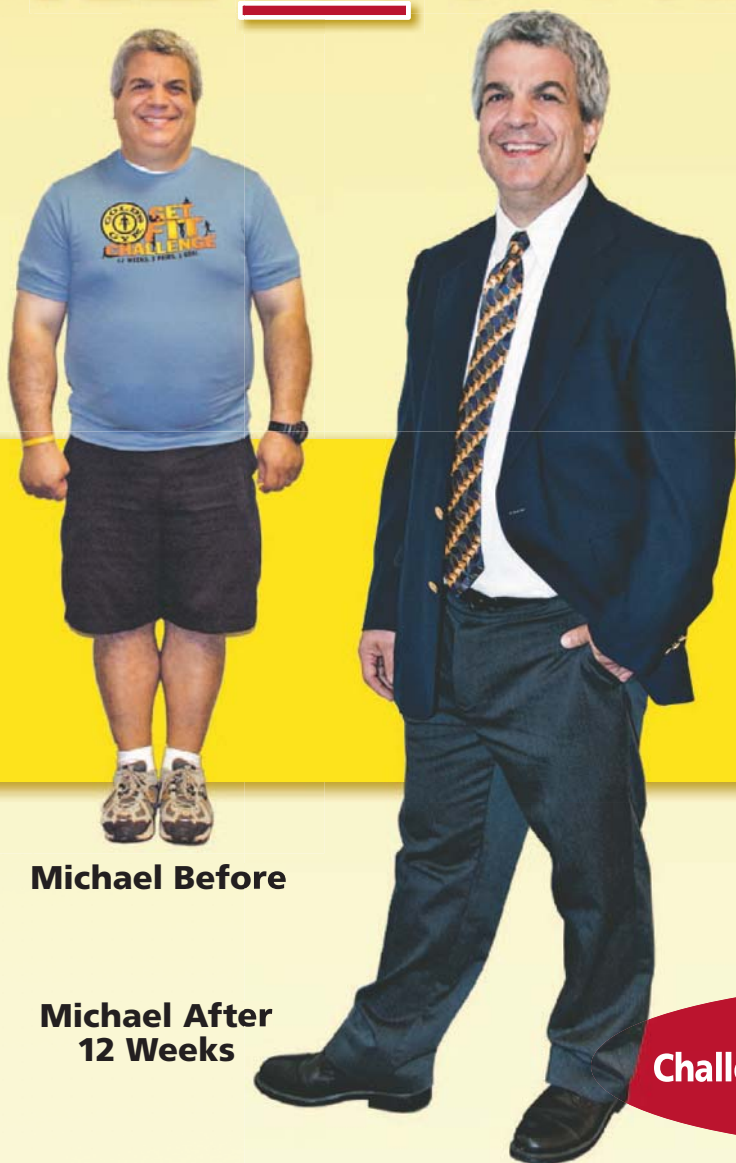
The board has said it will not support pay increases for workers in contract talks set to begin this summer. But Jackie Jeter, president of Amalgamated Transit Union, said that doesn't mean she won't ask.

"We're not going to ask for anything outlandish, but I'm sure if the numbers show our earnings should go up, we'll ask for what we're entitled to," Jeter said. DANA HEDGPETH (THE WASHINGTON POST)



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Receiver Pierre Garcon played four years with the Indianapolis Colts before agreeing to sign with the Redskins on Tuesday.

Big Get for Redskins

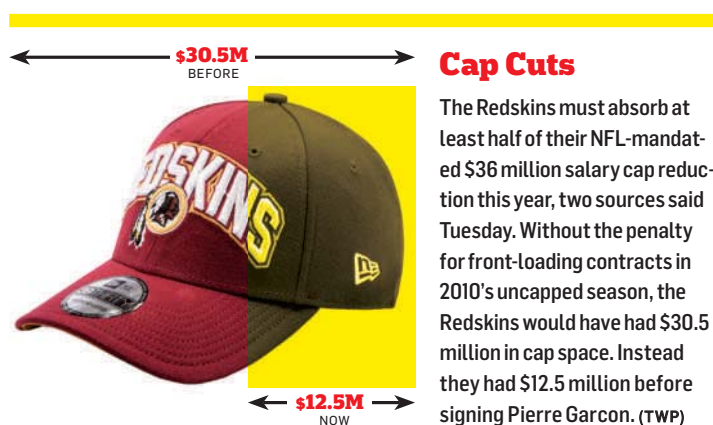
On first day of free agency, Washington adds receiver Garcon

The Redskins

A day after being imposed with a major salary cap reduction, the Redskins still lived up to their reputations as big spenders Tuesday, the opening day of the NFL's free agency.

Less than an hour after players were allowed to sign with other teams, wide receiver Pierre Garcon announced on his Facebook page that he would sign in Washington. The acquisition filled one of the team's biggest needs: a playmaker for rookie quarterback Robert Griffin III — the team's presumed first-round pick in April's draft — to throw the ball to.

Washington, whose leading



Around the League



- The Bears acquired receiver Brandon Marshall from Miami for two draft picks.
- The Dallas Cowboys released two-time Pro Bowl safety Terence Newman.
- Wide receiver Marques Colston signed a 5-year deal to stay with the Saints.
- ESPN reported that defensive end Mario Williams would visit the Bills first.
- The Tennessee Titans prepared a pitch for quarterback Peyton Manning.
- Several outlets said Tampa Bay was favored to sign receiver Vincent Jackson.

Local Push



The Redskins were in negotiations on Tuesday with wide receiver Josh Morgan, a person familiar with the talks said. The news came less than an hour after former Colts receiver Pierre Garcon announced he'll sign with the Redskins. Morgan, a D.C. native who played at H.D. Woodson High and Virginia Tech, played his first four seasons for the San Francisco 49ers. He had only 15 catches in five games last season but totaled 96 catches over two seasons in 2009 and 2010. (TWP)

receiver last year was Jabar Gaffney, was also targeting San Francisco's Josh Morgan as it tries to overhaul its receiving corps.

The Associated Press also reported that the Redskins also agreed to terms to re-sign defensive end Adam Carriker to a four-year, \$20 million contract.

Meanwhile, ESPN reported that the Redskins were competing with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the 49ers for cornerback Eric Wright.

The flurry of activity was an apparent act of defiance by Washington, which saw its 2012 salary cap space cut by \$36 million over two years by the NFL. Half of the penalty must be assessed this season, the NFL said.

The Redskins say they followed the rules, but former Indianapolis Colts vice chairman Bill Polian told ESPN that teams were warned "on numerous occasions" not to front-load contracts during the uncapped year. The Cowboys were hit with a \$10 million penalty for similar violations. (EXPRESS/AP)

In Brief

MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS

Melo Out of Tournament



Melo

Syracuse sophomore center Fab Melo has been ruled ineligible for the NCAA tournament, another shot in a season full of them for the Orange. The university announced Tuesday that the 7-footer did not travel with the team to Pittsburgh and won't take part in the NCAA tournament, but did not elaborate. (AP)

PRO HOCKEY

Crosby to Play Thursday

Penguins captain Sidney Crosby will return to the ice Thursday night, when Pittsburgh faces the New York Rangers at Madison Square Garden. Crosby, battling concussion problems, hasn't played since Dec. 5, and has only played in eight games this season. (AP)

BOXING

Peterson, Khan Set For Rematch in Vegas

After a contested fight in D.C. last year, American Lamont Peterson believes he will receive full credit for beating Amir Khan only if he repeats the feat in their upcoming rematch. On Tuesday, they made a second fight official — it will be May 19 in Las Vegas. (AP)

TV Lineup

NCAA HOOPS (6:30 P.M., 9 P.M., TRUTV) Lamar faces Vermont and California plays South Florida in the first-round of the NCAA tournament.

NIT HOOPS (7 P.M., 9 P.M., ESPN2) Minnesota plays LaSalle and Bucknell takes on Arizona in the NIT.

PRO BASKETBALL (7 P.M., 9:30 P.M., ESPN) The Indiana Pacers host the Philadelphia 76ers and the Chicago Bulls play the Miami Heat.

PRO HOCKEY (7:30 P.M., NBCSN) The Buffalo Sabres face off against the Colorado Avalanche.

Sports

UVa. Seniors Will Finally Dance

Scott, Zeglinski are poised for first game in NCAA tournament

Men's College Hoops

Mike Scott and fellow fifth-year senior Sammy Zeglinski were seated with coach Tony Bennett between them when the team gathered to watch the NCAA selection show. When the Cavaliers heard their named called, Scott was the first to his feet.

"Once the Florida name was called, I knew our name was going to be called next," the Cavaliers' scoring and rebounding leader said.

Scott, an All-ACC forward who averaged 18.1 points and 8.4 rebounds, has waited a long time for his first chance at the NCAA tournament, and says he will be full of emotion when the Cavaliers are preparing to play Florida in Omaha, Neb., in the second round Friday afternoon. "The only tournament I've ever been to was the CBI tournament," he said.

Zeglinski, too, is fired up. "It definitely has been a long time coming being here five years and never getting a chance to play in the tournament," he said.

"You do think about some of the struggles that you've been through with your teammates."



Mike Scott, left, averaged 18.1 points per game for the Cavaliers this season.

Zeglinski has had more than his share of those struggles, missing 25 games in the 2007-08 season because of an ankle injury and

missing seven games last season while rehabbing from knee surgery. This year, he's been healthy, but his 3-point shooting has been largely missing in action. He was among the leaders in ACC play last year at 43.6 percent, but is at 29.5 percent in league play this year.

With Scott by far the Cavaliers' most dangerous offensive player, a return of Zeglinski's 3-point marksmanship would be huge against a high-scoring team like the Gators. Scott, though, said he doesn't give Zeglinski's shooting more than a passing thought.

"When he stopped shooting, I guess that's when I would say something," he said. (AP)

2012 ncaa women's tournament bracket

HOW TO READ AND USE IT

It's a little late, but here's your 2012 NCAA women's tournament bracket, ready for you to pencil in your predictions. To use it, remove the next four-page sheet from Express — the bracket is on the reverse side of the ad on pages 18 and 19. Sorry for any confusion.



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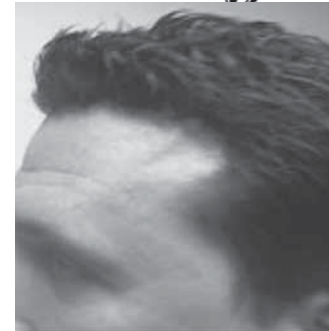
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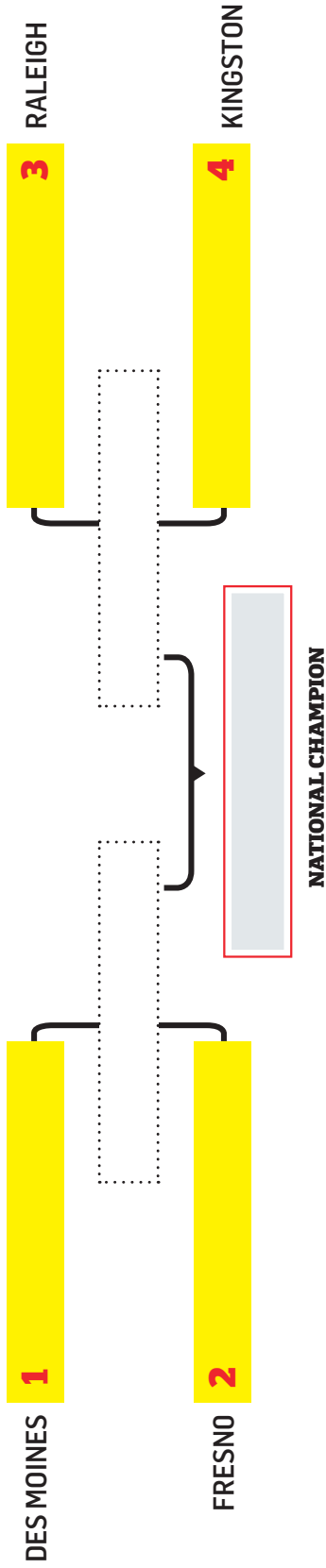
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Framing the question

Glasses without lenses are big in China, but are they focused fashion or hollow style statements?

Tiffany Tan reports.

Surrounded by shiny leather bags with the overlapping L and V monogram, Wang Yanzhu looks like your typical Chinese fashionista on a shopping trip. The 27-year-old is dressed in a brownish orange poncho, her chin-length hair is in a headband and a dark brown leather satchel dangles from her forearm. To complete the look, she decided that morning to slip on a pair of big, translucent, orange plastic glasses — well, frames to be exact, since there's only air where the lenses should be. She has 10 more such frames sitting at home.

Wang, like many Chinese urbanites in Hong Kong, Taiwan and the mainland, uses these empty plastic frames as fashion accessories and beauty aids. "Lens-less glasses can project many different styles and go with various looks," says the Beijing resident, who works



Pop singer Zhang Liangying wears lens-less glasses at an event in Shanghai.

FUOCHI / CFP

in makeup sales.

After a friend gave Wang her first pair four years ago, she began wearing them regularly, because she is drawn to the seeming refinement of women in glasses, she says.

"They also provide coverage when you're not wearing any makeup," she says.

In a country where a third of the population of 1.3 billion is nearsighted, Wang is blessed with perfect vision and has no need for glasses.

Children tell her big plastic frames look old-fashioned. Older people say they obstruct her "beautiful eyes".

Her boyfriend teases that they make her eyes appear too big. Her mother bluntly says they don't suit her.

Welcome to the polarizing trend of wearing glasses without lenses.

Since 2008, the practice has become popular among college students and yuppies on the mainland, but it has also been an object of jokes and ridicule. Style professionals are divided on its cool factor.

Clement Buyi Z, a Shanghai-based stylist whose Clement & Clement Production has worked with Chinese fashion and lifestyle magazines like Harper's Bazaar and Modern Weekly, agrees that the frames are versatile tools.

"The glasses can help people achieve different styles and can change the way your face looks," he says, describing such eyewear as a "key accessory with magic".

But he cautions against blindly following trends. "Just be who you are," he says. "Find styles that suit you, and create your own."

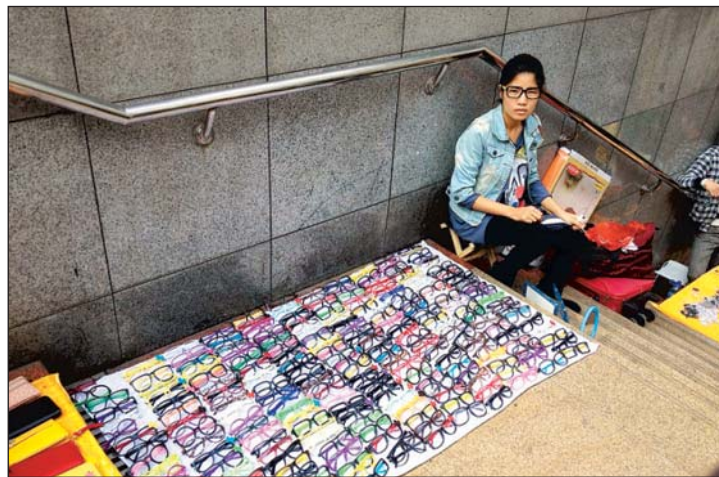
American stylist Nels Frye is blunter. The Beijing street fashion blogger and editor-in-chief of Lifestyle magazine says few people can pull off wearing "fake" glasses.

"It takes real style to do that," he says.

"It takes a sort of indignant style. You're deliberately being cheeky. You're challenging the notion of what is authentic and what is fake, and you're commenting on that."

Frye says he understands the motivation of people who regard the frames as a beauty aid — to, say, distract attention from eye bags or to make a long face seem smaller. But on the whole, he finds the trend "lame".

Many believe China adopted the trend from Japan and South Korea, like it has done with hairstyles and clothing over the years. But in this case, fashion



NATALIE TAN / FOR CHINA DAILY

A street vendor sells lens-less glasses in Xiamen, Fujian province.

experts say, the influences were entirely Chinese beauty and brains.

In 2005, some film and fashion celebrities on the mainland began wearing big, black glasses — a novelty that caught the public's attention. During the same period, the "nerd" subculture entered the mainstream, and the group's signature big, black glasses became synonymous with intelligence and hard work.

"Over time, people began removing the lenses from these black frames," says Liang Yan, a design teacher at the Beijing Institute of Fashion Technology and a judge on *Creative Sky*, China's version of the US reality TV show *Project Runway*.

"Many of the earliest lens-less glasses were black. It was not until 2008, when they exploded on the mainland, that the frames came out in different colors."

It's been four years since empty frames became big in urban China, and they show no signs of disappearing. Part of the reason, Liang says, is that they "have been integrated into people's self-identity".

The latest frame models, believe it or not, are inspired by feline cartoon characters. The Hello Kitty ones, which come in plain colors, polka dots and turquoise shell, feature a small bow on the top left. The scale-like protrusions on the sides mimic cat whiskers.

Then there are the Garfield frames, which have drooping "cat's ears" on top and small holes to represent the ear canal. The all-time best-sellers? "These ones," a shopkeeper in Beijing's Xidan shopping district says, holding out black, rectangular plastic frames, some with neon-colored stems.

But why take out the lenses and risk being called a phony? After all, there are non-prescription lenses for people who don't need help seeing.

They do not want to deal with dirt, fog or reflections on their lenses, interviewees say.

Hu Danying, 19, is very nearsighted and has prescription glasses. But every day, whenever she steps out of her college dorm, she sports lens-less frames over silver-gray contact lenses. The effort seems redundant, but the film and TV animation student wants it no other way.

Daughters of the Yellow Emperor

By PAULINE D. LOH

She is walking proof that Chinese women have an almost ageless beauty. Yue-sai Kan has seen a few decades go by, but no one could possibly guess she's over 60, unless they were immigration or tax officers with privileged information. When we visited her at her art gallery-like apartment in Shanghai, our young photographer stopped short at the door, captivated by a portrait of the lady on the wall. When she appears for our interview, she is perfectly made-up and immaculately groomed, and looks no more than half her age.

Many years ago, she decided to create a cosmetic line especially for Asian women, and the Yue-sai brand, now part of the L'Oreal corporate umbrella, is an acknowledged pioneer in the field.

"I don't know exactly what makes our skin more sensitive, but I just know that when we launched our first line of skincare, there were so many sensitive skin types. I did all the skin tests in the United States, albeit in Chinese and Asian skin. But I am sure it has a lot to do with the diet."

Yue-sai now tests all its products in China on Chinese skin, and that has made a tremendous difference. Kan says that since her cosmetic line became part of the L'Oreal group, the product

quality has improved tremendously, thanks to L'Oreal's excellent laboratory support.

Why is it that Asian skin seems to look younger than Caucasian skin?

"In general, I think our skin has finer pores, and it is attached closer to the bone than a Caucasian person's. Our skin has less hair, too, and it's tighter in general."

"Yes, it's a genetic trait that makes our skin look younger."

How would you maintain and protect that youthfulness?

"The fact that Chinese women do not like to go out in the sun as much is a very good habit. The sun does immense damage to the skin. Then, of course, massaging the skin and the products you use also make a lot of difference. Many of the Yue-sai skin products contain Sun Protection Factor for the skin. This includes even the face powder."

"I think there is another difference," she says, "and that is how our skin reacts to the sun."

"I have lived in China for the last 25 years and I never once came across a case of skin cancer. In the States, there are so many! It seems that over there, many people over 60 seem to be afflicted with skin cancer in varying degrees."

"I think that the yellow-tinged melanin under Asian skin really helps to protect against sun damage. We get



YONG KAI / FOR CHINA DAILY

dark spots, rather than skin cancer."

Kan uses and swears by her own products, which she says are important in slowing down the aging process.

"I use Vital Essential No 3, as it exfoliates my skin more and speeds up the regenerative process."

Yue-sai cosmetics has different product lines for different ages, and its dynamic French general manager, Stephane Wilmet, is familiar with every one.

"Scientifically, there is no published evidence to show that Chinese skin is more sensitive than others. But we are very convinced that Chinese women really care about their skin and are very careful about what is happening to their skin."

"In this case, in addition to diet indeed, we could find that during season changes

(winter to spring, summer to winter) there are more complaints of skin sensitivity or itching, but it is really linked to temperature and humidity changes. Also, pollution may contribute a lot to the increase in complaints regarding skin sensitivity."

"Clearly the No 1 enemy, especially regarding aging, is the sun," he says, mostly from ultraviolet rays. "Chinese women have delayed aging appearances, mostly thanks to less UV exposure, better protection and their natural skin color, and genetic reasons."

Wilmet says the Yue-sai line has different products for different ages and different skin problems. Most of these follow the Traditional Chinese Medicine philosophy and use rare herbs like ganoderma, ginkgo biloba and silver ear fungus.

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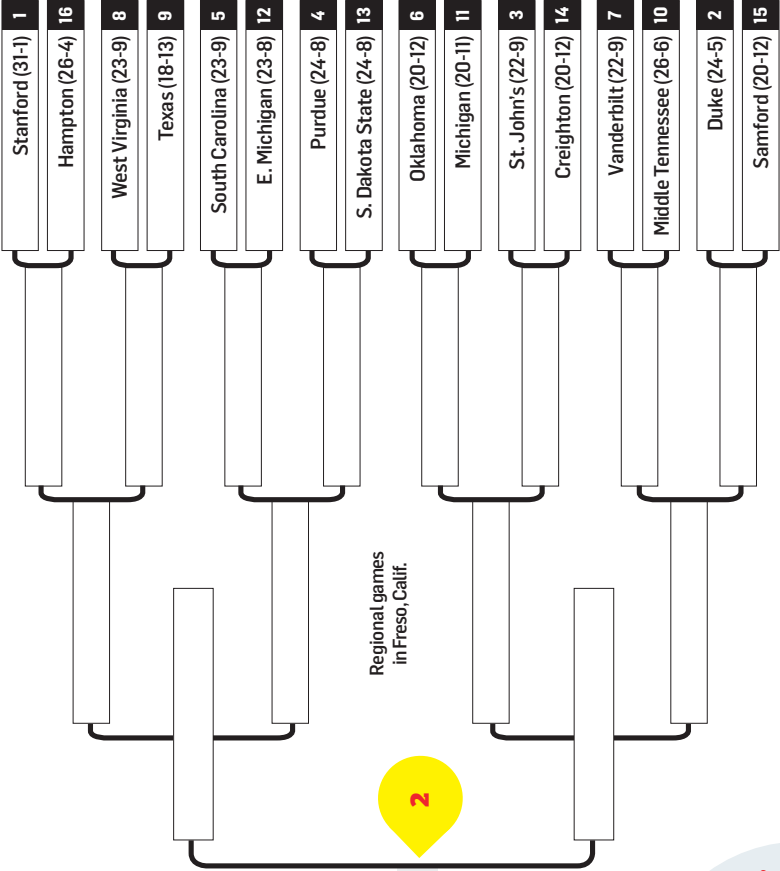
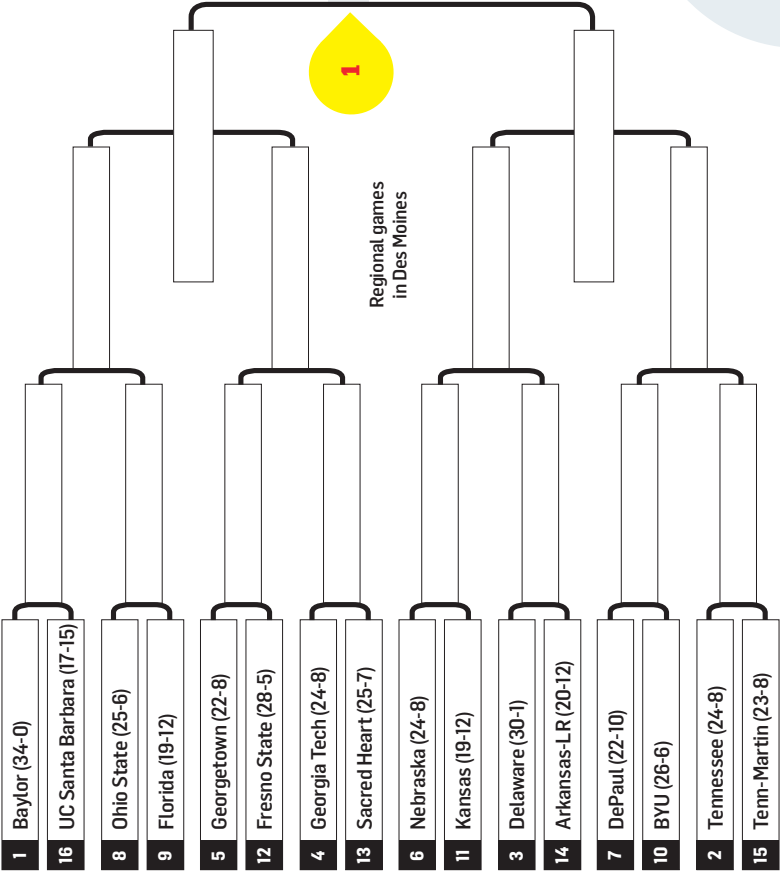
First Round
March 17 and 18

Second Round
March 19 and 20

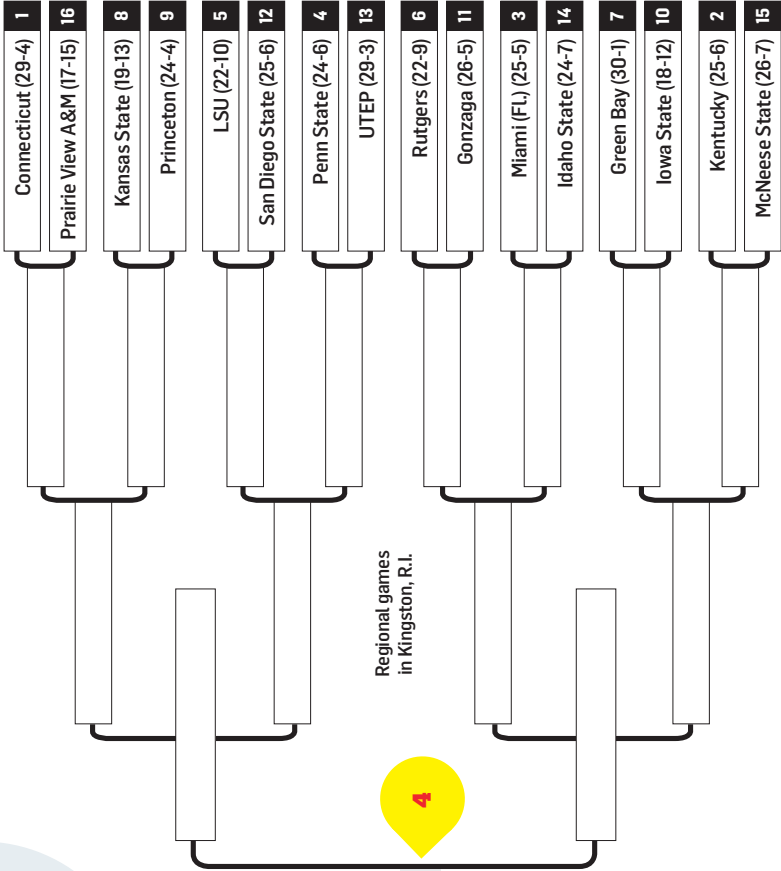
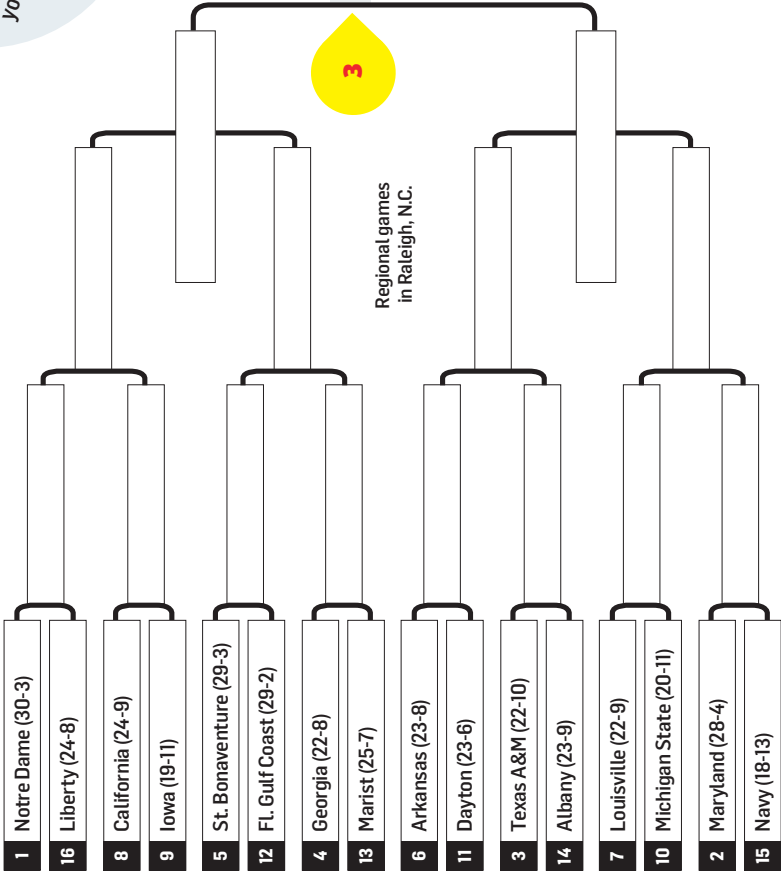
Regionals
March 24 and 25

Regional Finals
March 26 and 27

Fresno, Calif.



Editor's Note:
Remove and unfold this four-page sheet from Express for the Final Four bracket to complete your 2012 NCAA women's tournament picks.



Raleigh, N.C.

First Round
March 17 and 18

Second Round
March 19 and 20

Regionals
March 24 and 25

Regional Finals
March 26 and 27

Kingston, R.I.

lookout



Failure to Survive
Discovery Channel
fires 'Man vs. Wild'
host Bear Grylls **35**

Inside Jokes



Dare to Be Stupid

Merriam-Webster defines silly as "exhibiting or indicative of a lack of common sense or sound judgment," which basically implies that silly is stupid. Silliness may come from an illogical place, but that doesn't mean it can't be smart. Case in point: Todd Glass' stand-up at the DC Improv last weekend.



By Rudi Greenberg

Glass' early set Friday was, at times, over-the-top silly, like when he'd repeatedly end a punch line with: "And we'll be right back. You're watching the Todd Glass show at the DC Improv," while a radio station jingle played over the loudspeaker.

Or when he did a bit about an older man who sees an infomercial for a "Hip Mop" at 3 a.m., turns to his wife and shouts, "I need to have that mop!" After starting the joke, Glass pulled back, ending it early because, he admitted, it may have been too ridiculous.

Sensing that maybe he'd misjudged his crowd, he restarted the bit a little later — re-enacting the scenario as it escalated to the point where he was screaming as if the world would end if this man did not get his mop. The crowd erupted in laughter.

It may sound silly on paper, but in person, it seemed pretty smart.



For more of Rudi's thoughts, follow him on Twitter: @rudi_greenberg.

A Day in the Life

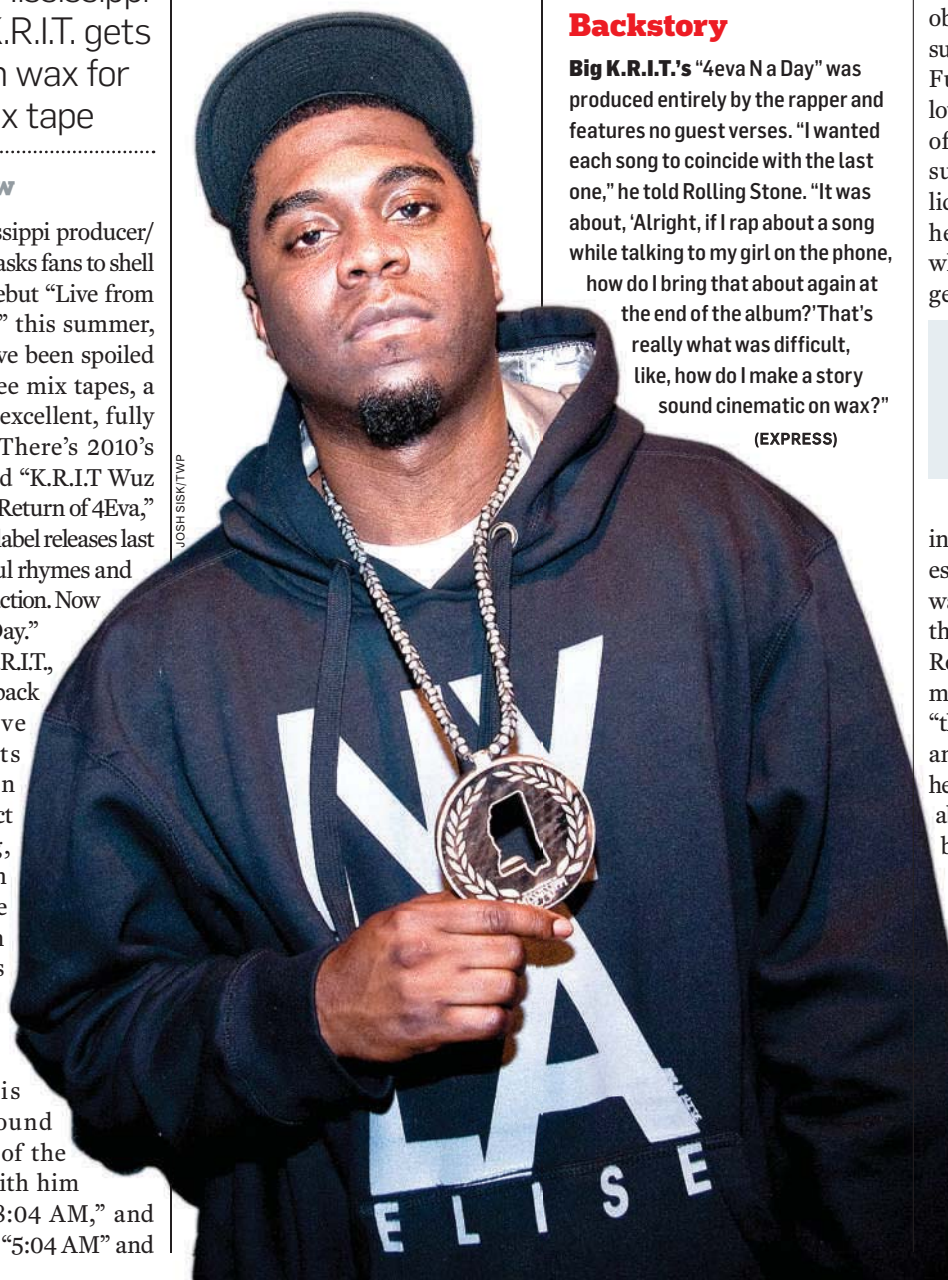
Ascendant Mississippi rapper Big K.R.I.T. gets cinematic on wax for his latest mix tape

Album Review

By the time Mississippi producer/rapper Big K.R.I.T. asks fans to shell out for his label debut "Live from the Underground" this summer, the public will have been spoiled by a pile of his free mix tapes, a few of which are excellent, fully formed albums. There's 2010's critically acclaimed "K.R.I.T. Wuz Here," then 2011's "Return of 4Eva," which rivaled most label releases last year with its forceful rhymes and K.R.I.T.'s solid production. Now there's "4eva N a Day."

The tape finds K.R.I.T., 25, especially laid-back and introspective — even the beats lean jazzier than usual. It's the perfect prequel to a big, fancy label album — an amazing piece of work built with little more than his sizable production skills, voice and life story.

The project is loosely built around a day in the life of the artist (it starts with him waking up, on "8:04 AM," and wraps with tracks "5:04 AM" and



Backstory

Big K.R.I.T.'s "4eva N a Day" was produced entirely by the rapper and features no guest verses. "I wanted each song to coincide with the last one," he told Rolling Stone. "It was about, 'Alright, if I rap about a song while talking to my girl on the phone, how do I bring that about again at the end of the album?' That's really what was difficult, like, how do I make a story sound cinematic on wax?"

(EXPRESS)

"The Alarm") and features keen observations on fame, rap, love, success, family, God and the South. Full of third-coast pride, he's a loving but unforgiving chronicler of life in Mississippi on tracks such as "Package Store" (that's liquor store, city dwellers), which he rightfully paints as a place where troubled souls converge to get "wine for spirits."



4eva N a Day
Big K.R.I.T.

"Boobie Miles" and "Handwriting" are standout companion pieces that speak to anyone who's ever wanted to give up on a dream. On the former, K.R.I.T. becomes Tony Robbins with a drawl — in full-on motivational mode, he rhymes that "the only difference 'tween a winner and a loser is a winner plays until he wins." On "Handwriting," those abstract thoughts on perseverance become personal as K.R.I.T. outlines his struggles in the music industry and details how a dude with a thick accent and no deal went on to become a rising star who managed to drop two complete albums "minus label support." Make that three. SARAH GODFREY (THE WASHINGTON POST)

● Fillmore, 8656 Colesville Road, Silver Spring; March 23, 8 p.m., \$35; 301-960-9999, Fillmoresilver.com. (Silver Spring)



good to know » "Game Change" drew the largest premiere audience for an HBO original film in eight years: 2.1 million viewers. » Geek icons Leonard Nimoy and Stephen Hawking will guest star on "The Big Bang Theory." » A Rhode Island-based company and the rock band Kiss are opening a mini golf course in Las Vegas. » Disney is planning a sequel to 2011's "The Muppets." (EXPRESS)

lookoutentertainment



1 To the Stars
Born from the ashes of '60s supergroup Jefferson Airplane, Jefferson Starships's "prototype" lineup included David Crosby, Graham Nash and Jerry Garcia. If there's anyone you'd want to escape Earth within a hijacked starship (that was the concept album's concept), it would be those trippy people. Later line-ups would change significantly over the years. **The Hamilton**, 600 14th St. NW; 7:30 p.m., \$33-\$48.50; Thehamiltondc.com, 202-787-1000. (Metro Center)

2 Good Grief
"You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" is a community theater standard, a small-cast crowd pleaser that's cheap to produce. But Olney's production doesn't rest on the jazzy music and old jokes, choosing instead to pay specific homages to the cartoon and focus on charismatic yet sweetly tragic plays on our deepest childhood anxieties. **Olney Theatre Center**, 2001 Olney-Sandy Spring Road, Olney; through March 18, \$26-\$54; 301-924-3400, Olneytheatre.org.

3 Sonnets in Song
People spend their whole lives studying Shakespeare's sonnets, so it's no surprise that pianist Burnett Thompson has been able to devote more than a decade to writing a song cycle based on the collection of poems. He'll perform it for free today at the Shakespeare Theatre, aided by sing Coco Zhao. **Shakespeare Theatre's Sidney Harman Hall**, 610 F St. NW; noon, free; 202-547-1122, Shakespearetheatre.org (Gallery Place)



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TV tonight **lookout**

Little Shop of Horrors

FX expert Cleve Hall is scary good, but 'Monster Man' falters

Reality

SYFY 11:00 Around the time they turn 13, boys are supposed to put their toys away. This never occurred to Cleve Hall, an old-fashioned effects expert for Hollywood films. He's the star of the new reality series "Monster Man."

If you need a special monster or weird alien for your movie, you turn to Hall and his company, Sota FX. Actually, it's not his company; he works for friends who barely tolerate his lack of punctuality. In addition to his bosses, he works with his two daughters and his ex-wife. If you follow these occupational docu-sitcoms, you've seen this dynamic before.

Did we mention that he drives a hearse to work?

Along the way, we meet filmmaker Sean S. Cunningham ("Friday the 13th"), who hires Hall to create a



Effects expert Cleve Hall works on a creature for the Syfy series "Monster Man."

prosthetic that will allow Cunningham to direct a scene involving conjoined twins being separated in a particularly grisly manner. It has to look real but spurt lots of blood and gore at the critical moment. And the scene can be shot only once. This assignment should appeal to fans of "Face Off" (10 p.m., Syfy), which airs its finale tonight.

Later, Hall is assigned the job of creating a two-headed shark

and needs to familiarize himself with sharks' behavior. Rather than scour footage of the deep-sea predator, he insists on donning a wet suit and entering a shark cage. It's at this point that even the most brain-deadened reality TV fan has to realize that the producers are just wasting time to pad out the hour. And it's at this point that "Monster Man" jumps the shark.

KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNIVERSAL UCLICK)

Best Bets

ABC 8:00

The Middle Brick takes a newspaper delivery job from the town's veteran newsman (guest star Ed Asner) to earn money for a coveted item. Frankie discovers Mike's secret battery hoard.

CBS 9:00

Criminal Minds Rossi and his colleagues are in Seattle to investigate the mysterious murders of married couples who were serving as foster parents.

BRAVO 9:00

Interior Therapy With Jeff Lewis In this spinoff of another Bravo series, house flipper Jeff Lewis, right, takes over households and redesigns not only the owners' living spaces but also their lives.



PSYCH 10:00



Psych Shawn and Gus investigate the attempted murder of a contestant on a dating show similar to "The Bachelorette," in which men compete for the affections of a woman with whom they've crossed paths in the past. Wayne Brady and wrestler Mike "The Miz" Mizanin, left, guest star. (TRIBUNE MEDIA)

Cartoons



Toilet Humor

Cartman, Stan, Kyle and Kenny are back for the 16th season of "South Park" (10 p.m., Com). Details of the premiere are scant, but the episode, naughtily called "Reverse Cowgirl," has something to do with the TSA, leaving the toilet seat up in the bathroom and an unimaginable catastrophe. This is "South Park," after all. (EXPRESS)

Healthy adult volunteers needed



The National Institute of Mental Health is conducting outpatient research studies on fear and anxiety at the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

Over a period of one to three visits of one to three hours each, participants will be interviewed and possibly complete a series of tests during which your heart rate will be recorded.

Volunteers must be between 18-50 years of age, medically healthy, and not be taking medication.

There is no cost for study-related tests.

Compensation will be provided.

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Q & A

Flight Crew

I will be in Austria for the first time in early June and would like to visit three cities. Are Vienna, Salzburg and Innsbruck the best choices? Any hidden gems?

Those are probably most people's top choices, and they are all wonderful, beautiful cities. But Graz, which is the second-largest city in the country, is also interesting, less well-known and less visited. It has some beautiful architecture, lovely Old Town and a castle on a mountain. Also check out Melk, on the Danube, with its gorgeous abbey, and Baden, just south of Vienna (you could easily hit it while in the capital). You really can't go wrong wherever you go.

➔ The Washington Post's Flight Crew fields travel-related questions, comments, gripes and stories at 2 p.m. every Monday at washingtonpost.com/travel.

Early Birds Fly Cheap

Snag the best deals on summer travel by getting started now

Advice

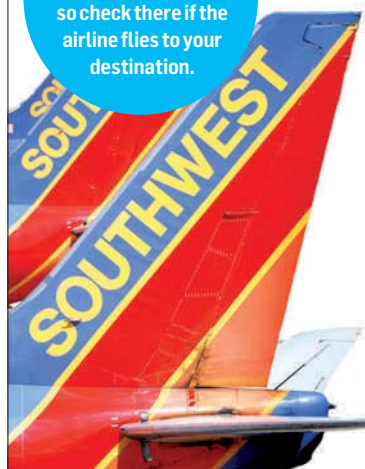
Hoping to get a good deal on summer travel? Start planning now.

The official start to spring is weeks away, but airfares for summer are rising fast. Large U.S. airlines have collectively tried to raise prices four times this year and succeeded twice. Those price hikes are expected to accelerate in April and May. Here's how to find deals.

Study Early

Start looking for a summer airfare about three months ahead of time. Don't panic if fares are higher than last year — it doesn't mean they won't fall before your vacation.

Southwest advertises fares only on its own site, so check there if the airline flies to your destination.



If you're worried about waiting, select the flight you want and start booking it online. When you hit the point where you choose a seat,

look at the seat map. If it's still fairly empty, wait. It's likely the airline will lower prices to fill seats.

Another trick: If you search repeatedly for the same flight over a couple of days, clear the "cookies" from your Web browser. The option is often found in your browser's "Tools" menu. If you don't clear them, you might see higher airfares than someone searching for the first time.

Shop Around

All travel-booking websites are not created equal. Expedia and Orbitz offer package deals that can save you hundreds if you're booking a hotel or rental car with airfare.

Those with fare-predictor technology, like Bing.com, let travelers know if it's a good time to book. And Southwest advertises fares only on its own site, so it's impor-

tant to check there if the airline flies to your area. More airlines are also offering sales on their own websites to draw traffic there.

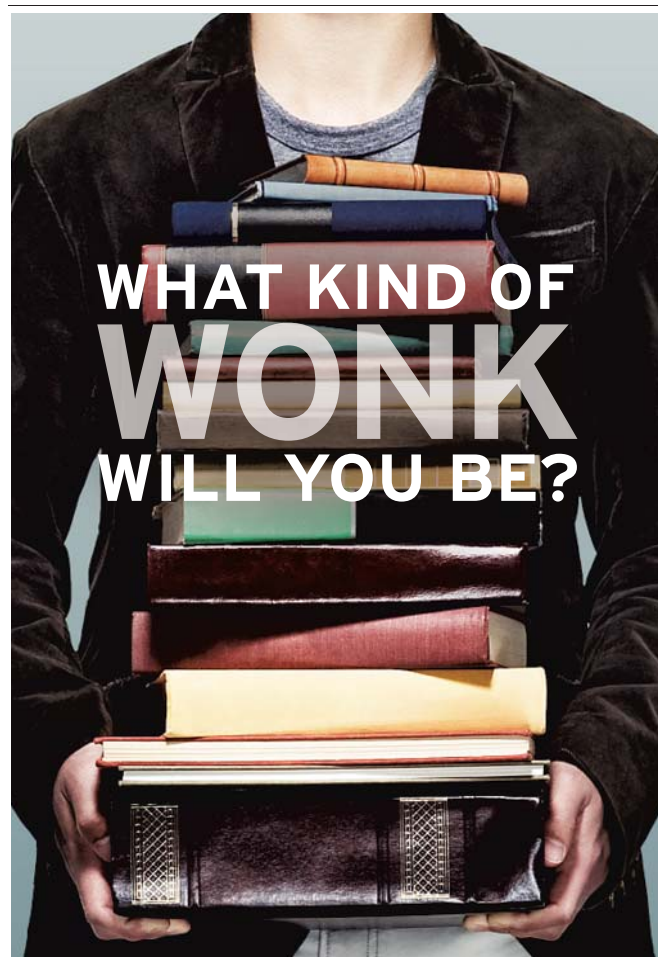
Be Flexible

Don't just compare airlines. It's important to compare airports, too. A longer drive might be worth it for a cheaper fare.

And don't assume that bigger airports offer cheaper fares. While it's usually true, airlines sometimes put less popular fares to smaller cities on sale to fill seats, said FareCompare's Rick Seaney.

Another big mistake, Seaney said, is assuming so-called discount airlines always offer the cheapest fares. Airlines like Southwest and JetBlue, just like their competitors, tend to offer higher fares on routes where they have less competition.

SAMANTHA BOMKAMP (AP)



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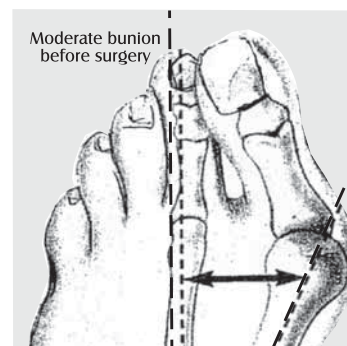
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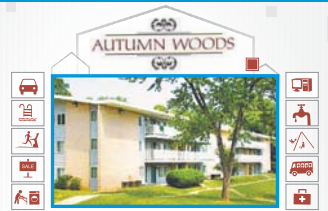
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Blog Log



▲
“That’s not how art works. The audience doesn’t get to pick the ending. If you like a certain kind of game ending, you can make your own game and end it any way you choose. I have faith that the great writers and producers at BioWare are better at deciding how their franchise will end than the people who play it.”

—STEPHEN JOHNSON AT G4TV.COM reacts to news that gamers have created a Facebook page, Twitter feed and online petition to try to influence BioWare, the makers of “Mass Effect 3,” to change the game’s ending to something more upbeat.

▲
“Jane Lynch wants to make one thing quite clear: She is no Mitt Romney fan.”

—CURTIS M. WONG AT HUFFINGTONPOST.COM got the message loud and clear after the “Glee” star told Politico that she wasn’t impressed with the Republican presidential candidate after his visit to the Daytona 500 last month.

▲
“Now that is how you advertise on a bus. ... Not bad, Sam Ash, not bad. ... Now if only the bus actually played music when it made turns. Actually, scratch that. That would be awful.”

—GARTH JOHNSTON AT GOTHAMIST.COM enjoyed a New York City bus ad by the music equipment retailer that featured an accordion painted on the middle portion of an accordion-style bus.

▲
“The Hoya blew out an ACL. Bad omen considering the opening round matchup isn’t that favorable. Sense a Vegas swing.”

—@YAHOOINOISE thinks that since Jack the Bulldog, mascot of the Georgetown Hoyas, injured his ACL Tuesday, the men’s basketball team might be an early round exit in their NCAA Tournament game against Belmont in Columbus, Ohio.

▲
“Okay, I didn’t see this coming. As I reflect on GQ’s annual acknowledgement of guys who are ‘doing it,’ I can’t help but not think Drake was that guy this year. ... okay maybe he had a hell of a year. I just didn’t think the other side noticed. Call me a non-believer.”

—PHAROH MARTIN AT THESMUGGER.COM didn’t think the Canadian recording artist would be acknowledged by the popular magazine as one of its “Men of the Year.”



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puzzles lookout

Horoscope

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) The more you know about a certain situation, the more likely you will be to steer clear of it — but some involvement is unavoidable.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Why focus so much on the way things should be, when the way they truly are is what matters right now? You may be avoiding a key issue.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You may find yourself in an awkward position toward midday, and the only person who can assist you is one about whom you have had doubts.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You can do much to ensure that the quality of another's work remains high. Take care, however, that you don't neglect your own efforts.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You may be jumping to conclusions if you think that a certain endeavor cannot be completed on time. You're overlooking a key factor.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Today you are ready to put an end to something that has given you repeated bouts of trouble over a long period of time. Enough is enough!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You may not receive the information you need from the experts today, but you'll have the chance to go to someone behind the scenes.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You are ready to rethink what is possible at this time. Someone comes to you with a suggestion that seems, at first, unrealistic. But wait!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Some of those working with you doubt you are really on top of it today — but you can prove you've left no stone unturned.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) What goes on between you and a family member today may not be fully understood by those around you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You may feel that you are spending a great deal of time catching up — but one thing you know will make a big difference.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You must pay keen attention to what goes on around you today, or you may miss one or two hidden messages that matter a great deal.

Scrabble Grams

PAR SCORE 145-155, BEST SCORE 214

A ₁	A ₁	I ₁	X ₈	T ₁	N ₁	M ₃

Double Word Score

--

 RACK 1

A ₁	A ₁	I ₁	I ₁	P ₃	L ₁	T ₁

--

 RACK 2

A ₁	I ₁	O ₁	Y ₄	D ₂	R ₁	P ₃

--

 RACK 3

A ₁	A ₁	O ₁	L ₁	R ₁	P ₃	S ₁

2nd Letter Triple

--

 RACK 4

Yesterday's Solution

B ₃	A ₁	R ₁	B ₃	E ₁	L ₁	L ₁	RACK 1 =	61
P ₃	A ₁	R ₁	D ₂	O ₁	N ₁		RACK 2 =	9
S ₁	P ₃	A ₁	T ₁	U ₁	L ₁	A ₁	RACK 3 =	65
O ₁	V ₄	A ₁	R ₁	I ₁	A ₁	N ₁	RACK 4 =	70
PAR SCORE 145-155								TOTAL
								205

FOUR RACK TOTAL

Make a 2-7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get a 50-point bonus. Blank tiles used as any letter have no point value. Scrabble is a trademark of Hasbro in the U.S. and Canada.

Sudoku

MEDIUM

7			1	6				
		1			4	6		
	6			7	3		8	9
6	1						9	2
5			4	1	2			3
2	4						1	7
8	2		7	4			5	
		6	2			9		
				8	1			6

Yesterday's Solution

1	4	5	9	7	3	8	6	2
3	9	8	4	2	6	7	5	1
6	2	7	1	8	5	3	4	9
8	5	4	6	1	7	9	2	3
7	1	9	5	3	2	4	8	6
2	3	6	8	9	4	1	7	5
5	7	2	3	4	1	6	9	8
4	8	3	2	6	9	5	1	7
9	6	1	7	5	8	2	3	4

Need more Sudoku? Find another puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section Monday through Saturday.

Comics

POOCH CAFE | PAUL GILLIGAN



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE | STEPHAN PASTIS



Forecast

77 | **54**

Today: Mostly sunny and very warm today. Mainly clear tonight.

75 | **57**

Tomorrow: Partly sunny and warm tomorrow. A few showers late tomorrow night.

Looking Ahead

FRI **SAT** **SUN**
74 | **55** **72** | **50** **66** | **48**

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today: 7:21 a.m.
 Sunset today: 7:14 p.m.
 Moonrise today: 1:45 a.m.
 Moonset today: 11:35 a.m.

Almanac

Normal high: 55
 Record high: 87
 Normal low: 37
 Record low: 14

FORECAST BY ACCUWEATHER.COM ©2012

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Happy Hour**

**Thursday, March 15th
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lookout puzzles

Crossword

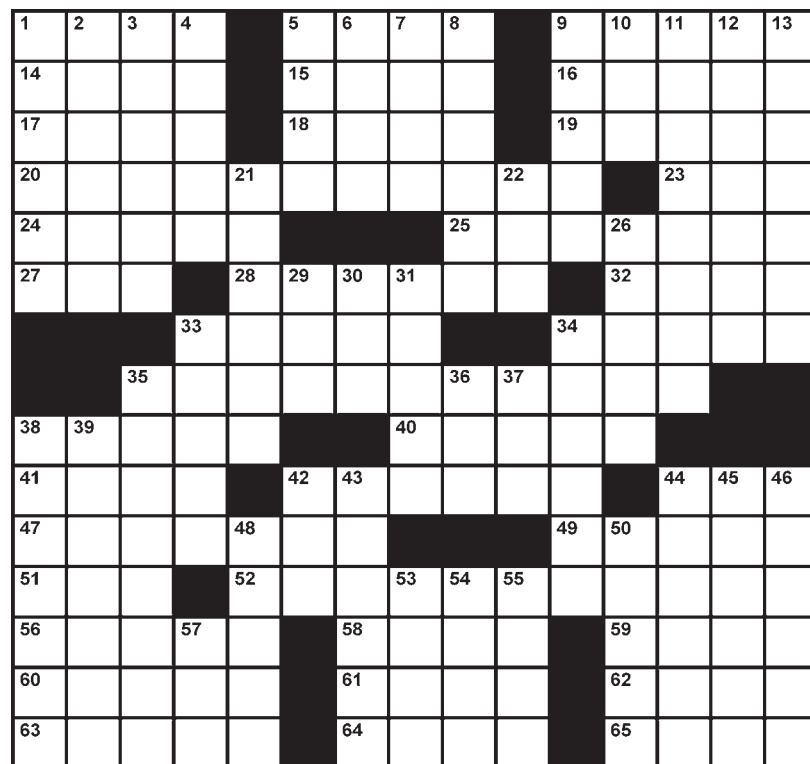
LET'S GROOVE

ACROSS

- 1 CD- ____ (storage devices)
5 Attack with a knife
9 Moves like a crane
14 Very large-scale
15 Like permed hair
16 "Fame" actress Cara
17 Puente of Latin jazz
18 Bittersweet coating
19 Avian abodes
20 What excavating equipment is designed for
23 Money shelter
24 Kind of fair
25 Quack medicine
27 With 7-Down, place in Israel
28 Shaped by machine, as wood
32 Vacuum cleaner part
33 Columbus called it home
34 Acts sulky
35 Structures where air is blown at high velocities
38 Sarcastic "Cheers" waitress
40 Aim improver
41 Impressed
42 Citizen Kane's real-life model
44 Sporty cap
47 Oboe's relative
49 Former pupa
51 Boring tool
52 Stairways outside of buildings
56 At an angle
58 Administered with a spoon, perhaps
59 Primer pooch
60 "Aladdin" apparition
61 Former coin of Italy
62 Dispose of via eBay
63 Yard trimmer
64 When Passiontide falls
65 Bathtub swirl

DOWN

- 1 Kind professor's allowance
2 Addictive drug
3 Kind of heart valve
4 Writer Sir Walter
5 Dog-paddled, e.g.
6 Edible tuber
7 See 27-Across
8 Name in the newspaper?
9 Pair in the air
10 Word before "so!" and "not!"
11 Wanting (with "of")
12 Leave confidently in one's care
13 Bagel seeds
21 Capital near Yellowstone National Park
22 "Go ahead" signal
26 Oar holder
29 Common conjunction
30 Young kid

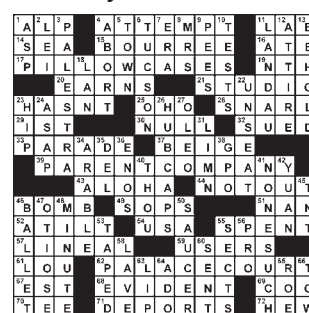


EDITED BY TIMOTHY E. PARKER

- 31 African trade language
33 Coats with gold
34 Type of ulcer
35 Obtain via force
36 ATM maker bought by AT&T
37 Anti votes
38 Sauerkraut, essentially
39 Apt rhyme for "anticipating"
42 ____ polloi (common folk)
43 Sign up for
44 Accessed (with "into")
45 Ancient
46 Almost all
48 More frequently, to bards

- 50 Billiard shot
53 "... 15 miles on the ____ Canal"
54 Be deserving of
55 Bed frame segment
57 Whopper you can't eat

Yesterday's Solution



Today in History

1794 Eli Whitney receives a patent for his cotton gin.

1962 Democrat Edward M. Kennedy officially launches in Boston his successful candidacy for the U.S. Senate seat from Massachusetts.

1967 The body of President John F. Kennedy is moved from a temporary grave to a permanent memorial site at Arlington National Cemetery.

express



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people **lookout****OUTRAGE****'You Scum Can't Operate REAL CAMERAS Now?'**

A photographer in New Orleans says Russell Brand grabbed his phone and threw it through the window of a building, TMZ.com reported. Timothy Jackson told police the incident occurred Monday night. He was in his car, taking pictures of Brand with his iPhone. Brand walked over, wrestled the phone away, and threw it, shattering a glass window. (EXPRESS)

LOVE ODE**'I Love You Enough to Go To the DMV / Not Enough To Endure Brief Scrutiny'**

Sarah Michelle Gellar says she didn't change her last name to Prinze until her and Freddie Prinze Jr.'s fifth anniversary five years ago.

"It's a lot of paperwork! You have to go to the courthouse and then to the DMV," she told *Bullett* magazine. "If people wouldn't laugh at me, I would probably change my last name professionally." (EXPRESS)



Bear Grylls toughs it out in front of the Sydney Opera House; Bear Grylls (inset) enjoys an intimate moment with his food.

PUZZLING RIVALRIES**Man Vs. Paycheck**

The Discovery Channel has severed ties with "Man Vs. Wild" star Bear Grylls, according to the Hollywood Reporter. "Due to a continuing contractual dispute with Bear Grylls, Discovery has terminated all current productions with him," said a network spokesperson. Grylls allegedly refused to participate in two as-yet-unannounced projects with the network. (EXPRESS)

**Victims?****Show: 'Please, Let Me Die'**

Ashton Kutcher says he hasn't heard yet whether "Two and a Half Men" has been renewed for a 10th season. "I absolutely adore the time that I'm having," he told PaleyFest reporters. He did not go so far as to say he'd return for another season. (EXPRESS)

**HEY, IT'S THOSE PEOPLE!****Dad from 'Twilight' and Kelly Taylor End Marriage**

Jennie Garth and Peter Facinelli are divorcing after 11 years. The couple said Tuesday that they remain "dedicated to raising our beautiful daughters together," and asked for privacy and respect.

The couple have three daughters, ages 14, 9 and 5. (AP)



"I just started calling myself 'Swamp Ass.'" Like, I have swamp ass right now. I had major swamp ass because I was wearing these Spanx to hold in my gut."

— JESSICA SIMPSON REVEALS TO JAY LENO HER NICKNAME FOR HERSELF, CHOSEN BECAUSE SHE WAS "SWEATING [HER] BUTT OFF" ON "FASHION STAR."

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